(vi) National Iodine Deficiency Disorders Control Programme (Ministry of Health and Family Welfare);

(vii) Targeted Public Distribution System (Department of Food and Public Distribution).

(viii) The Village Grain Banks Scheme in chronically food scarce areas (Department of Food and Public Distribution).

(ix) Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme/ Swajaldhara and Total Sanitation Campaign; National Rural Employment Guarantee Programme (Ministry of Rural Development).

(d) The details of number of child deaths (including tribal children), due to malnutrition are not being centrally maintained by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

. Deaths of children due to malnutrition

2284. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 2.5 million children die in the country due to malnutrition every year accounting for one in five deaths of children in the world and girls in the country are also 50 per cent more likely to die than boys;

(b) whether it is also a fact that every child under six years of age as well as pregnant and nursing mothers are entitled to the package of services under Integrated child Development Services programme; and

(c) if so, what Government are doing to popularize the programme in rural areas particularly in Uttar Pradesh, and Chhattisgarh where majority of women are not aware of their rights?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) The details of number of child deaths due to malnutrition are not maintained centrally by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. However, malnutrition is not a direct cause of death although it can increase the susceptibility to morbidity and mortality by reducing body's resistance to infections.

As per the Registrar General of India Survey, the Child Mortality Rate (CMR) in the year 2005 (age 0-4 years) is 17.3 per thousand population of the corresponding age group.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Information, Education and Communication (IEC) and Community Mobilization activities under the ICDS Scheme aim at creating awareness about the ICDS Programme and stimulating demand for it. Government of India release grant-in-aid towards IEC component to all States/UTs under the ICDS Scheme.